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State Board of Education

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO:	District Technical College Directors
	District Career and Technical Center Directors
	District Adult Education Directors

FROM: Henry Mack, Chancellor, Division of Career and Adult Education

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**DATE:** April 20, 2021

SUBJECT: Emergency Order 2021-EO-02

On April 9, 2021, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) issued Emergency Order 2021-EO-02. This order builds on previous FDOE Orders 2020-EO-06 and 2020-EO-07, which created conditions for the successful reopening of all the state's public schools, and 2021-EO-01, which expanded the statewide testing windows to ensure that every student can safely complete their state assessments.

The Emergency Order specifies protocols for the following, including Florida's adult high school students who are scheduled to graduate in spring 2021 (ss. 1003.4282(6)(F.S.)).

Students scheduled to graduate in the spring of 2021 are expected to pass the assessments to earn a standard high school diploma pursuant to s. 1003.4282, F.S. However, notwithstanding ss. 1003.4282(3) and (6) and 1008.22(3), F.S., and solely for students who are expected to graduate in the spring of 2021, a school district is authorized to waive the required state assessments for graduation, if the district determines on a case-by-case basis that the student's high school record establishes a comparable level of achievement. School districts must report these waivers to the department on survey five.

Additionally, school districts are authorized to waive the requirement to use assessments to earn standard high school diploma designations found in s. 1003.4285, F.S., solely for students expected to graduate in the spring of 2021. A school district is authorized to grant such waivers only where the district determines on a case-by-case basis that the student's high school record establishes a comparable level of achievement.

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Notwithstanding the requirements of ss. 1008.22, 1008.25 and 1003.4282, F.S., school districts and charter school governing boards are authorized to determine promotion and final course grades in classes with state end-of-course (EOC) exams, based solely on the student's performance in the course, including in instances where the student does not have a score from the EOC exam. This authorization only applies to courses students successfully completed in the 2020-21 school year.

This waiver does not apply to students who are not currently enrolled in coursework for the adult high school diploma options. Adult high school programs are not authorized to offer the waiver to any previously enrolled student who exited without meeting assessment requirements.

The Emergency Order is effective immediately. Details can be found in the attached document-FDOE 2021-EO-02.

The press release can be viewed here: <u>http://www.fldoe.org/newsroom/latest-news/florida-department-of-education-issues-emergency-order.stml</u>

If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth Moya at <u>Elizabeth.moya@fldoe.org</u> or Tara Goodman at <u>Tara.goodman@fldoe.org</u>.

HM/em/tg

Attachments